SHRIMATI MARGARET ALVA: All nations have thrived by making commitments and not keeping them as far as women are concerned. *(Interruptions)*

SHRIMATI VYJAYANTIMALA BALI: Madam, this is not included in the list of business.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Gujralji has made a point. All of you have spoken on the subject. There was a Declaration adopted at the International Conference. The Prime Minister addressed it. He also gave the valedictory address. His address was very clear. The President spoke. The Vice-President spoke and the Speaker also spoke. Everybody spoke on the Bill. The point is that without the participation of 50% of population in the decisionmaking, democracy is not complete. There are no two opinions on this and the Government is very much aware of this. Gujralji is committed and I take Gujralji for his commitment because I don't think he has failed us in the past. I am sure he is not going to fail us in future. We are all behind him and he would not fail in his commitment. He is saying that a Bill will come before the House. I am sure a Bill will come soon and al! of you will pass it. We will be partners in this endeavour because the whole world is looking to us. It is not something that only we are looking for it. The whole world is looking to New Delhi. Everybody in the Conference said that they were looking to New Delhi. So, it is entirely up to New Delhi to let the world know what it is going to do for women.- With that note, may I ask Gujralji to make his statement? Gujralji, has to make a statement on the trilateral agreement. Gujralji, you please make the statement. But I don't think we have the time to seek the clarifications now itself. I would seek the- sense of the House if we could take up clarifications later.

SOME HON. MEMBERS: Yes, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Gujralji, you may please make your statement.

STATEMENT BY MINISTER
Tripartite Agreement Between India, Iran and Turkmenistan

THE MINISTER OF EXTERNAL AFFAIRS (SHRI I.K. GUJRAL): Madam Deputy Chairman, I have the pleasure to inform the Hon'ble Members of this august House that on February 22, 1997 in Tehran, India, Iran and Turk menistan signed at the level of Foreign Ministers an agreement on the interna tional transit of goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan. This has brought to fruition the process begun in April 1995 when the three countries signed a trilateral MoU on this subject. The three sides have worked together in a spirit of friendship mutual understanding and con structive cooperation in finalising this ag reement. Its signing reflects the tradition ally close relations India has with Iran and Turkmenistan. It is also in keeping with the vision of the Governments of these countries to pro- mote economic cooperation amongst themselves and with other CIS countries which accede to it in future.

The cardinal objective of the agreement is to provide a suitable juridical and legal framework for the multi-modal movement of goods from India to Iran and Turkmenistan, and other countries that join the arrangement in the future, and *vice-versa.* The salient features of the agreement are:

* It facilitates simplifies and ac- celerates customs and other formalities including minimising documentation and inspection requirements for the transit of goods. For example, it provides that the goods transiting under this agr e-ment will not be subject to exaru.-nation through the customs jurisdiction *en route* except when irre- gularities are suspected.

* It provides for the exemption of import and export duties or other taxes for goods ir. transit. Only

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legislation and as applicable to all other countries.

* The signatories have agreed to examine the possibility of setting up a simplified visa regime for personnel engaged in the transit of cargo under this agreement.

* There will be a regular join: mechanism for supervising the implementation of the agreement, for recommending changes to it and to consider any other related matter.

The agreement meets the need for developing an efficient, reliable, dependable and cost effective route for trade and other forms of economic interaction between India, Iran and Turkmenistan and our other economic partners in the CIS region. My counterparts from Turkmenistan and Iran have joined me in underlining the importance of expanding and developing cooperative endeavours between our three countries in the field of trade and industry. I believe that the trilateral agreement on the transit of goods will be a key element in meeting this objective.

I am also happy to inform the Hon'ble Members that the President of Turkmenistan, His Excellency, Mr. Sapar-murad A, Niyazov is currently paying a goodwill State visit to India. Discussions clearly brought out the identity of views on both sides on important bilateral, regional arid international issues. The two sides have warmly welcomed the signing of the trilateral agreement on the transit of goods between India, Iran and Turkmenistan. They agreed that this landmark agreement would further enhance trade and other forms of economic cooperation amongst these three countries, and CIS countries which accede to it in the future. The agreement will foster a harmonious climate for multilayered economic cooperation and strengthen the cause of peace, stability and development in the region.

In conclusion, I would like to place on record our appreciation of the cooperation extended by the Governments of Iran and Turkmenistan in reaching this agreement and of the constructive spirit in which the officials of the different Ministries and Departments of the three countries have worked together in this regard.

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन (उत्तर प्रदेश)**:** क्लैरिफिकेशन कब होंगे और मंत्री जी जवाब कब देंगे ?

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: That will depend on when we have time to call him.

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: उनको सुविधा कब होगी ?

उपसभापति : उनकी सुविधा हम बता देंगे । अभी थोड़े ही उन्होंने बताई है ।अभी उन्हें कही जाना है ।

We will fix the time and it will be as soon as possible.

SHRI JOHN F. FERNANDES (Goa): Madam, if it is listed after one or two weeks, it will have no relevance.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: No, we won't have it after one or two weeks. I will try and it will be as soon as possible. Mr. Gujral, would you be free today evening or tomorrow evening?

I.K. GUJRAL: At 4.30, Madam, I have to make a statement in the Lok Sabha also. May I suggest, if it is tomorrow, it will be better.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: Tomorrow, it is all right. But it can't be in the evening.

श्री नरेन्द्र मोहन: कल शाम को कर लें साढ़े चार बजे ।

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: We can't have it at 4.30 because we will be discussing Motion of Thanks on the President's Address. We can't break it. It can be only after that. Mr. Gujral, if it is convenient to you, we can have it at 5 o, clock.

SHRI I.K. GUJRAL: I am in your hands, Madam.

THE DEPUTY CHAIRMAN: But no, we can't have it tomorrow because we have a book-release function and the

Vice-President is releasing a "book on Rajya Sabha. Then we will have it on Monday or some other day that is convenient. We will let the Members know. We will get it announced.

RE: REPEATED INTRUSION BY CHINESE FORCES INTO INDIAN TERRITORY FROM THE NORTH

प्रो.विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा(दिल्ली): उपसभापति महोदया,मैं आपके माध्यम से सदन का ध्यान एक बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण बात की ओर दिलाना चाहता हूं । पिछली 4फरवरी से 18 फरवरी से 18 फरवरी के बीच चीन के सशस्त्र गार्ड ने भारतीय सीमा में 6 बार प्रवेश किया और यह प्रवेश उन्होंने कोई थोड़े गज या मीटर तक नहीं किया बल्कि 5/6 किलोमीटर तक भारतीय सीमा से उन्होंने प्रवेश किया ।

महोदया,यह बहुत ही गंभीर बात है और सुरक्षा की दृष्टि से तो यह हमारे लिए बहुत ही महत्वपूर्ण है क्यों कि हिमाचल प्रदेश के अंदर जो वहां पर ट्रेक जंक्शन है उस सीमा पर पहली कभी इस प्रकार की कोई घटना नहीं हुई थी और आम तौर पर वहां शांति रहती है । वहां पर इन 14 दिन के अंदर 6 बार चीनी सुरक्षा गार्ड भारी असले से लैसे होकर,बहुत ज्यादा हथियार लेकर,भारतीय सीमा में प्रवेश करते है और वह भी 5/6 किलोमीटर तक अंदर चले आए और फिर वापस चले गए । फिर आएं,फिर वापस चले जाएं,ऐसी स्थिति वहां पर हुई है ।

महोदया,ईस्टर्न और वेस्टर्न में तो इस प्रकार की घटनाएं थोड़ी बहुत होती रही है,लेकिन इस सैक्टर के अंदर यह घटनाएं पहली बार हुई है । इसको ज्यादा गंभीरता से लिया जाना चाहिए था,परन्तु हमारा रिएक्शन क्या हुआ ? पहली बार तो यह हुई कि जब भी आते हैं 6 किमोमीटर अंर तक,तो हम लोग सफेद झंडा लेकर वहां खड़े हो जाते हैं और सफेद झंडा दिखाकर उनके पास यह कहते हुए चले जाते हैं कि हमारे ऊपर गोली न चलाना । उनके पास ऐसे जाते है और उनसे रिक्वेसट करते है । रिक्वेस्ट सुनने के बाद वे वहां से बहार निकल जाते है,लेकिन फिर आ जाते है और फिर चले जाते है । मैं पूछना चाहता हूं,उपसभापति महोदया,अपने विदेश मंत्री जी से कि यह कौन सा तरीका है ? ...(**व्यवधान**)...यह क्या हो रहा है,मंत्री ही आपस में बोले चले जा रहे है तो बाकी का क्या है ।

उपसभापति : आप तो मेरे लिए कहिए । मैं सुन रही हूं ।

प्रो.विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: मुझे समझ में नहीं आ रहा,बार बार मंत्री उठ रहे हैं । ...(**व्यवधान**)....

उपसभापति : मैं सुन रही हूं । मैंने सुना कि उनके गार्ड आते है,बार बार भारतीय सीमा में घुसते हैं और घुसपैठ करके चले जाते है । वह एरिया बहुत शांतिपूर्ण है । वहां भी गड़बड़ हो रही है । आप बोलिए । मैं सुन रही हूं ।

प्रो.विजय कुमार मल्होत्रा: मैं उनसे पूछना चाहता हूं कि क्या हमारे रिऐक्शन का यही तरीका है ? हम इतने साफ्ट क्यों हैं ? हमें उनके द्वारा हमारी सीमा के भीतर प्रवेश करते ही उनके विरूद्व कुछ कार्यवाही करनी चाहिए लेकिन इसके बजाय हम सफेद झंडा लेकर वहां खड़े हो जाते हैं और उनसे कहते है कि शू-आऊट नहीं होना चाहिए और उनसे रिक्वैस्ट करते है,गिड़गिड़ाते हैं और वे वापस चले जाते हैं ।

महोदया,ईस्टर्न और वैस्टर्न सैक्टर में जो कुछ घटनाएं हुई हैं वे दुर्भाग्यपूर्ण है । हमारा चीन के साथ समझौता हुआ । आपने उसके बारे में यहां आकर बड़े जोर से घोषणा की,राष्ट्रपति जी के अभिभाषण में उसका ज़िक्र आया,आपकी पार्टी के लोग भी इस बारे में बोले । उन्होंने कहा कि बड़ा भारी ऐतिहासिक समझौता हुआ है कि हम भी पीछे हट जाएं और वे भी पीछे हट जाएं,ताकि इस तरह की घटना न हो । वास्वत में यदि रेखा जाए तो चीन हमारी सीमा में ही पीछे हटा और हम अपनी सीमा में और पीछे हट गए । पहले जहां तक साल में इस तरह की एक घटना होती थी,वहां अब 14 दिन में 6 बार इस तरह की घुसपैठ हुई है । क्या यह हमारे समझौते का परिणाम है ? समझौता तो हमने इसलिए किया था कि ताकि सेनाओं को आपस में संघर्ष न करना पड़े और इस तरह की घटना न हो परन्तु ये तो 14 दिनों में 6 बार हमारी सीमा के अंदर आ गए और इसके बाद,आपका रियेक्शन क्या है ? मैंने कल खुद अखबार में देखा कि गृह मंत्रालय और विदेश मंत्रालय इस बारे में विचार कर रहे हैं कि इसके खिलाफ प्रोटेस्ट करें ।यह 4 फरवरी और 18 फरवरी के बीच की घटनाओं के बारे में प्रोटेस्ट करने की बात अब सोची जा रही है । अब 10 दिन के बाद यह सोचा जा रहा है कि कोई प्रोटेस्ट किया जाए या न किया जाए ।